

## Fort Peck Tribes

### Lateral L-2M Rehabilitation Project

EXHIBIT 29  
DATE Jan. 27, 2011  
HR 6

Lateral L-2M is one of the primary delivery laterals within the Wolf Point-Frazer Unit, primarily serving the southwestern third of the Unit. This canal has historically exhibited signs of severe seepage amounting to substantial losses in water. Rehabilitation of a half-mile section of Lateral L-2M is considered a top priority within the FPIP due to seepage concerns. In past efforts to conserve water within the FPIP, the Fort Peck Water User's Association (FPWUA) installed 1-mile of liner in Lateral 56, which was met with great success. Approximately 20 acres of farmland adjacent to Lateral L-2M have been lost due to over-saturation of the soils resulting from severe seepage in the lateral. The water loss through this reach of the lateral plays a significant role in water shortages experienced at the end of Lateral L-2M during peak irrigation periods. Combining seepage and evapotranspiration it was calculated that **Lateral L-2M loses over 3.95 cfs (293.3 million gallons) of water per year.**

The proposed project is a pivotal step toward the conservation, management, development, and preservation of land and water resources within the Fort Peck Irrigation Project. Due to the severity of the seepage, 20 acres of farmland are now unproductive related to over-saturated soils. Water losses amount to a revenue reduction of up to \$234,200 per year, which would have a substantial impact on the local economy. Implementation of the proposed rehabilitation measures will result in improved irrigation efficiency and increased yields, with the potential to stimulate the local economy.

The rehabilitation of a half-mile section of Lateral L-2M will provide the following benefits:

- Reduced seepage
- Increased water delivery efficiency
- Increased on-farm irrigation efficiency
- Increased crop production
- Improved soil quality
- Help maximize the beneficial use of water pumped from the Missouri River
- Conservation of water which will increase river flows for the new Dry Prairie Rural Water System
- Development of existing acres that were unable to be irrigated under previous water shortage conditions
- Conservation of water for recreation, fish, waterfowl, and wildlife habitat
- Preservation of agricultural lifestyle

Grant Request Amount:	\$100,000.00
Fort Peck Tribes Match Amount:	\$6,400.00
FPWUA Match Amount:	\$39,000.00
<b>Estimated Total Project Cost:</b>	<b>\$145,400.00</b>

Fort Peck Tribes sincerely appreciates your consideration of this project and hopes that you will find it as important and necessary as our residents and your constituents have.

